

SENATE BILL 739

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B2

2001 Regular Session
11r2500
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By: **Senators Munson and Mooney**
Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2001
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Washington County - Hagerstown Arts and**
3 **Entertainment District**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$275,000,
5 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Mayor and City Council of the City of
6 Hagerstown for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for
7 disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee
8 provide and expend a matching fund; and providing generally for the issuance
9 and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That:

12 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on
13 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Washington
14 County - Hagerstown Arts and Entertainment District Loan of 2001 in a total
15 principal amount equal to the lesser of (i) \$275,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching
16 fund provided in accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by
17 the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized by a
18 resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance
19 with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State Finance and Procurement Article and
20 Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

21 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as
22 a single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under
23 § 8-122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

24 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer
25 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and
26 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
27 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
28 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
29 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Mayor and City Council of the City of
30 Hagerstown (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the planning,
31 design, construction, renovation, and capital equipping of public facilities, including
32 parking lots, pedestrian walkways, alleys, and the entrance of the Maryland Theater,

1 located within the Arts and Entertainment District in the area adjacent to the first
2 block of Potomac Street in Hagerstown.

3 (4) An annual State tax is imposed on all assessable property in the State in
4 rate and amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, as and
5 when due and until paid in full. The principal shall be discharged within 15 years
6 after the date of issuance of the bonds.

7 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
8 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a
9 matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either
10 directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
11 unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in kind
12 contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act. In case of any
13 dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify
14 as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the
15 Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2003, to present evidence
16 satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If
17 satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and the amount of
18 the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan equal to the
19 amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act.
20 Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund certified by the
21 Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 June 1, 2001.